

**GOVERNMENT STRUCTURAL CHANGE ON ECONOMIC WELFARE OF
COMMUNITY BASED PROJECTS IN LURAMBI, KAKAMEGA COUNTY KENYA**

BY

SORE CAROLINE INGUMBI

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DECLARATION

This project is my original work and has not been presented to any other university.

Signature..... Date.....

CAROLINE SORE INGUMBI

ODL-BDS/6/00074/2/2015

This document is submitted for examination with my approval as the University

Supervisor

Signature..... Date.....

MS. JUSTER NYAGA

THE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA

DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to Hamilton's family and my sons for their constant encouragement and support to pursue higher studies.

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ABSTRACT

Kenya has devolved funds up to grass root level with the aim of bringing services and development close to its citizens in view of vision 2030. However a report by the controller and Auditor General in Kenya gazette 2010 uncovered massive misappropriation of Constituency Development Funds in 16 Constituencies. In spite of this, other constituencies were reported as posting remarkable performance. Presence of devolved funds at community level seems to spark little concern among community-based projects stakeholders yet, the funds are meant to bring improvement in socio economic welfare. The purpose of this study is to investigate how government structures change influence improvement of welfare of Lurambi people. The study explore the following objectives; To establish how devolved funds within the government structure influence improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi Sub-County, Kakamega County , to examine how administrative systems within the government structure influence improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County, to evaluate how human resource within government structure influence improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County and to determine how community-based projects participation within government structure influence improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County. The study used a descriptive survey design with a target population of 100 respondents. It used census and purposive sampling to get 100 respondents. The study used questionnaire and interview schedule to collect data. Data was analyzed both descriptive and inferential techniques of which Frequencies, cross tabulations, and chi-square elements for measuring association were used to study the findings at 5% α -level significance. The study therefore established that budgets allocated, amounts provided, funding channels in the county, accessibility of such funds through groups and individuals, county administrators meeting requirements before being appointed, feasibility studies before project roll out and project monitoring and evaluating committees significantly influenced economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi Sub-County, Kakamega County. From its findings, the study recommends Community-based projects to seek proper experts in designing project initiatives, proper feasibility on available business development oriented opportunities, competent management boards, standard monitoring and evaluation procedures to improve on their sustainability. All groups/community-based projects should synchronize their operations so as to avoid a multiple projects running parallel to county governments initiated projects. There is need for financial training and availability of training agricultural centres so as to enhance project sustainability to alleviate and reduce poverty. Further studies to be done to assess the impact of community-based projects in Lurambi and other sub-counties in the Country.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

NG-CDF	: National Government Constituency development fund
MDG	: Millennium development goals
LATF	: Local authority transfer fund
WSTF'S	: Water services' transfer fund
CBO'S	: Community-based projects Based Organizations
FD	: Fiscal decentralization
MNE'S	: Multinational enterprises
AIDS	: Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
NACC	: National Aids control council
CACC	: Constituency Aids control council
RMLF	: Roads maintenance levy fund
HIV	: Human immune deficiency virus
GDP	: Gross domestic product
FD I	: Fiscal devolution incentive

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

Government structural change: In this study this refer to the devolved system of government and how it has been changed

Improvement of community -based projects welfare: This refers to the status of the people leaving in Lurambi, their abilities to generate income

Devolved funds - optimal allocation of resources and goods within the County region and wards

Administrative systems: These are the systems that the government has put in place to cater for citizen in terms of operation.

Human resource: These refers to the personnel working at the devolved system of government including the County government

Community -based projects participation: The act of community -based projects involvement in decision making process.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter highlights the core rationale of the research; it gives the background information of research problem, statement of the problem, research objectives, research questions, significance of the study, scope of the study and limitations.

1.1 Background to the Study

Many democracies over the world, including Kenya have in recent years adopted devolution as a system of decentralization for development. In Kenya, this was after years of the post-independence approach of Local Governments which still embraced a strong centralized governance structure and which had been meant to resolve the regional development challenges but apparently failed (Khaunya, Wawire, & Chepng'eno, 2015).

The vast and unexpected structural changes in the postwar economy have had a great impact on the size and shape of government in the United States. The entire government sector of the economy, especially the federal government sector, has experienced large and unexpected structural changes in response to the “revolutions” that have swept through the economy. This chapter discusses how these changes have affected the fiscal institutions of government and therefore how and why we have come to experience fiscal crisis. It focuses on the way that the structure of U.S. government in the postwar years has been shaped by the forces of structural change in the economy. It looks more closely at the other side of the interrelationship, examining how the shifts and movements in the structure of government have impacted the economy and affected its ability to adapt to the emerging, new, world economy (Veseth 2008).

The American Revolution instigated much change within the newly independent nation, particularly political and social, and to a lesser extent, economically. After breaking away

from what appeared to be a corrupt government in England, American leaders formed the concepts of their ideal society.

Politically, when America first separated itself from Britain, the founders attempted to form it to have the least amount of similarities with Britain's as possible. To achieve this they ratified the Articles of the Confederation. The ideas that made up the Articles of the Confederation ended up turning the founders' dream of a functioning government into somewhat of a nightmare. The state and federal governments had no authority to tax citizens, not to mention that there was no concept of an executive branch. These flaws caused many issues which are highlighted in a letter (Adams 1787). The letter stated that there was serious civil unrest within many areas of the United States, and that the government may not have been strong enough to suppress rebellions, and guarantee stability. This indicated to the founders that they would be in need of a stronger, more centralized government and for that reason; they began the drafting of the Constitution. British style of government, in reality they reverted to one that was much more centralized, much like that of England's. The uneducated population of America did not experience as much change, though the ideas behind the revolution itself pushed many to seek economic prosperity for themselves. Women, and slaves experienced change in society as women gained more freedoms and many slaves were set free. Overall, our nation experienced the majority of its change in politics, and social issues, but change was still seen to a lesser extent economically (Jefferson in 1787).

This is evidenced by the challenges in Kenya mainly associated with bureaucratic inefficiencies, lack of accountability and transparency, unequal distribution of national resources and minimal community-based projects participation in local development, amongst others (Khaunya *et al*, 2015). Kenya's new Constitution marks a critical juncture in the nation's history. It is widely perceived by Kenyans from all walks of life as a new beginning.

Indeed, many feel that post-Independence Kenya has been characterized by centralization of political and economic power in the hands of a few, resulting in a spatially uneven and

unfair distribution of resources and corresponding inequities in access to social services: the opposite of an inclusive state (Kaimenyi, 2013).

Born of the political opportunity created by the 2007/2008 post-election violence, the Constitution that was finally adopted after almost a decade of unsuccessful reform attempts presages far-reaching changes. Its vision encompasses a dramatic transformation of the Kenyan state through new accountable and transparent institutions, inclusive approaches to government, and a firm focus on equitable service delivery for all Kenyans through the newly established county governments. Devolution is at the heart of the new Constitution and a key vehicle for addressing spatial inequities (Nyanyom, 2010). A more decentralized government makes eminent sense given Kenya's diversity and past experience with political use of central power. Decentralization has been increasingly seen and adopted worldwide as a guarantee against discretionary use of power by central elites, as well as a way to enhance the efficiency of social service provision, by allowing for a closer match between public policies and the desires and needs of local constituencies. Kenya's Constitution entrenches devolved government by guaranteeing a minimum unconditional transfer to counties under the new dispensation (Kangu, 2012).

Devolved government presents an opportunity to address the diversity of local needs, choices and constraints in Kenya. This is a very diverse country with ten major and more than thirty minor ethnic groups. Needs are very different between the arid and semi-arid North, the highlands, the rural Northern Rift, the urban centers of Mombasa, Nairobi, and Kisumu, the Coast, and Western Kenya (Republic of Kenya, 2011).

It is perceived that Counties be better placed than the national government to deliver social services, because they have specific challenges and the local knowledge to address them. For instance, in the case of health, lagging counties still need to catch-up in providing basic health services, while the leading urban counties be faced with new types of diseases (mostly non-communicable such as diabetes and cancer). With these stark differences it makes little sense to provide the same mix of services across the country. And even if there are no dramatic improvements in service delivery, people prefer to make decisions themselves rather than following directions imposed by a central

government. With a constitutional guarantee of unconditional transfers from the center, Kenya's counties have the means and the autonomy to begin to address local needs, and their citizens be more able to hold them accountable for their performance (Khaunya, 2015).

But Kenya's devolution is very ambitious, and therefore quite risky. It is a massive undertaking from a logistical point of view. The day after the last general election, Kenya's system of government and public administration was remodeled. It was inevitable that teething problems would be encountered during the transition. There have been diverging views on how far and how fast the transition should have been implemented. Since Independence, Kenya's leaders have held diverging views about devolution. From one perspective, it is seen to offer the potential to redress perceived ethnic and political bias by giving local community-based projects far greater control over resources and decisions about service delivery. However, from another perspective, devolution could potentially undermine national unity governments and breed apprehension amongst community-based projects considered aliens in the Counties.(Wawire, 2015)

Indeed, Kenya's devolution structure presents massive challenges for political and administrative restructuring by encouraging fragmentation of the state along partisan, regional and ethnic lines or is seen as 'decentralizing corruption', leaving citizens worse off if local elites are able to capture resources to the detriment of the majority, or when the newly established counties fail to put in place the systems needed for effective and transparent service delivery.(Mugambi, 2013)

The process of devolution is seen as being made up of three separate factors: legitimacy, the decentralization of resources and the decentralization of authority. He notes that any form of devolution implies some degree of sub national legitimacy and some form of decentralization of authority and resources. In striving to achieve its fiscal and macro-economic policies of employment, equitable distribution of resources, economic growth and others; the government of Kenya has established various devolved funds each

addressing a specific objective. These funds include: Women Enterprise Fund, Youth Enterprise Development Fund, Constituency Bursary Fund, Poverty Eradication Fund, Water Services Trust Fund, Road Maintenance Levy Fund, Constituency HIV/AIDS Fund, and National Development Fund for Persons with Disability, Uwezo Fund and Constituency Development Fund (National Treasury, 2017).

The CDF has been viewed as a key strategic driver of socio-economic development and regeneration within Kenya. It is a development initiative targeted at the constituencies by devolving resources to the regions to meet social economic objectives which have previously been managed from the Centre. The key objectives of the fund are to fund projects with immediate social and economic impact with a view to improving lives, alleviating poverty and general development purposes. It supports local development Projects, especially those aimed at alleviating poverty and developing infrastructure at grass roots level. It targets community-based projects -based development projects as a criterion and whose benefits are enjoyed by all as well as projects relating to set up and equipping constituency project offices. In this way the fund seeks to control imbalances in the regional development, improve pro-poor targets, expand coverage and improve development outcomes by eliciting local people's participation in decision making on issues of local development. (Simiyu, 2014)

1.2 Statement of the problem

Efficient and effective delivery of public services in Africa and other developing regions has for a long time been hindered by highly centralized government bureaucracies (Mwabu et al., 2001). In Kenya, several efforts have been made to reduce unnecessary layers of government to make service provision to the populace more effective. This is because devolvment of funds and governance to the locals is fundamental for both social and economic development of any given nation of the world. This aims at enhancing democracy through the participation of citizens by identifying problems that affect them directly and find ways of solving them to improve their well-being and also spearhead the operations of the government. Despite the government of Kenya's endeavor to devolve funds to the grassroots, still the economic welfare of the people is low (Kaimenyi, 2013).

Additionally, the report by the controller and Auditor General in Kenya gazette 2010 uncovered massive misappropriation of Constituency Development Funds in 16 Constituencies. This study therefore sought to investigate how government structural change influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi Sub-County, Kakamega County.

1.3 Objectives

The general objective of the study was to investigate how government structural change influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi Sub-County, Kakamega County

1.3.1 Specific Objectives

The study was guided by the following objectives:-

- i. To establish how devolved funds influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi Sub-County, Kakamega
- ii. To examine how administrative systems influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi Sub-County, Kakamega County .
- iii. To evaluate how human resource influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County
- iv. To determine how community participation influences economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County.

1.4 Research Questions

The study was guided by the following research questions:-

- i. How do devolved funds influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County?
- ii. How do administrative systems influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County?
- iii. How does human resource influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County?
- iv. How does community participation influence economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County?

1.5 Significance of the study

The study focused on structural change of government on improvement of the welfare of the people in Lurambi. This study will be of much benefit to the key stake holders, which include the government, the community and the administration. Through this study the government shall benefit from the recommendations that contribute to improving the welfare of the community. The recommendations can also be used to improve welfare of other community-based projects within the country. The community too will benefit out of this study by knowing how to collaborate with the government to achieve success in what they do, as it would improve their welfare. They will also continue to participate in the activities that add value in their life as they learn better ways of solving their problems

1.6 Scope

The target population of this research consisted of 100 devolved structure operators, beneficiaries and managers in Lurambi, Kakamega County. They included; County administration's budgetary allocation committees, C.B.O's representation, NG-CDF committee members, women and youth groups representatives and business fraternity. It was carried out during the months of September- December 2017. Lurambi Constituency is one of the twelve constituencies in Kakamega County. It is bordered by Shinyalu on the East, Ikolomani on the South, Malava and Navakholo on the North and Mumias East on the West. It hosts the capital of Kakamega County, Kakamega town.

1.7 Chapter Summary

This chapter highlighted the background of the study, statement of the problem the general and specific objectives, research questions, significance of the study and scope of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

The chapter presents literature based on the following themes and sub themes, concept of structural change, devolved funds and improvement of welfare, administrative structures and improvement of welfare, human resource and improvement of welfare, community - based projects participation and improvement of welfare; summary of the literature and gaps, theoretical frame work , conceptual frame.

2.1 Theoretical Literature Review

The theoretical framework of a research relates to the philosophical basis on which the research takes place, and forms the link between the theoretical aspects and practical components of the investigations undertaken. It is basically a conceptual model of how one theorizes or makes logical sense of the relationship among various factors identified as important to the problem. It has implications on every decision made on the research process. According Werhane (1998), the theory requires managers to articulate the shared sense of the value they create, and what brings its core stakeholders together. It also pushes managers to be clear about how they want to do business, specifically what kinds of relationships they want and need to create with their stakeholders to deliver on their purpose. Stakeholder theory is Managerial because it reflects and directs how managers operate rather than primarily addressing management theorists and economists. If devolved funding is to impact positively on the social economic welfare of the targeted people, the managers of the funds must articulate how to serve them and focus on delivering the purpose of these funds. This starts by identifying the CDF stakeholders who guide in selection of projects which align with the needs of various stakeholders. To deliver on their purpose, the CDF management should understand the impact they are creating to the stakeholders, compare this with the pre-determined goals of the fund and identify any service gap for corrective action. Through this the efficacy of the fund easily is achieved.

According to Rees (1985), theory focuses on the relationship between principals and agents who exercise authority on behalf of organizations. This theory is of the view that principals must solve two basic tasks in choosing and controlling their agents: first, they have to select the best agents and create inducements for them to behave as desired. Second, they have to monitor the behavior of their agents to ensure that they are performing as agreed (Ayee, 2005). A problem arises when the parties' goals conflict or when it is difficult or expensive for the principal to verify what the agent is actually doing. In this case Information asymmetry introduces an issue of adverse selection and a moral hazard problem.

In devolution of funds the principal-agency relationship exists, the national government being the principal and the devolved funds management committees and staffs being the agents. If the relationship between the two parties is not well checked, then the problems associated with the agency theory, like the information asymmetries are bound to occur thus limiting the impact of the fund. Critical to this is conflict of interest. While the government may want to create projects that improve the lives of the target groups, the CDF management may initiate populist projects to show the public they are working. Ultimately these projects fail to address the purpose of their establishment for failing to align with the needs of the target community. Thus the need to continuously monitor the effects of the projects initiated on the welfare of the constituency community-based projects.

2.1.1 Community Driven Development (CDD) Theory

CDD is a term, originally coined by the World Bank that refers to CBD projects where communities have direct control over key project decisions as well as the management of investment funds (Rao 2003). CDD contains five main components: (i) Empowering communities, (ii) Empowering local governments, (iii) Re-aligning the center, (iv) Improving accountability and (v) Building capacity (Nguyen 2005). Most practitioners think of community development as an outcome – physical, social, and economic improvement in a community – while most academicians think of community development as a process – the ability of communities to act collectively and enhancing the ability to do so. (Pittman 2009)

Community-driven or bottom-up approaches to development are based on the premise of community ownership and responsibility for the planning, implementation and monitoring of development projects (Gillespie, 2004). Innovation, not only enhances accountability by addressing the challenges of public based systems where their failures are attributed to lack of accountability to clientele (Jock and Gershon Feder, 2003); but also empowers communities to take charge of assessing the quality and effectiveness of the service.

Community-driven development (CDD) recognizes that poor people are prime actors in the development process, not targets of externally designed poverty reduction efforts. In CDD, control of decisions and resources rests with community groups, who may often work in partnership with demand-responsive support organizations and service providers, including elected local governments, the private sector, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and central government agencies. Not only do poor communities have greater capacity than generally recognized, they also have the most to gain from making good use of resources targeted at poverty reduction (Alkire et al. 2001).

Community development begins in the everyday lives of local people. This is the initial context for sustainable change. It is founded on a process of empowerment and participation. Empowerment involves a form of critical education that encourages people to question their reality: this is the basis of collective action and is built on principles of participatory democracy. In a process of action and reflection, community development grows through a diversity of local projects that address issues faced people in community (Margaret, 2005). Arguments in favour of the community driven development approach arise from extending the theory behind fiscal decentralization down to the village level, and CDD is thus often used to provide-bottom up support for broader decentralization reforms. In this case CDD is appropriate as projects that originate from the grassroots has full support and is owned by the community. The CDD empowers local people, helps to build upon and expand existing social capital and improves governance. Empowerment here is not only limited to gaining access to resources and services but also be viewed as empowerment in making decision for oneself and community at large

2.2 Empirical Literature Review

2.2.1 Devolved funds and Economic Welfare

Since independence, Kenya has experienced episodes of political instability, which have had adverse effect on the County's economic performance and social cohesion. For example, in 2008 Kenya witnessed violence following the disrupted national elections held in December 2007. Kenya also experiences other failures from time to time. Such failures include – corruption, economic stagnation, inequalities and poverty. These failures and episodic instability can be linked to the quality of governance (Kaimenyi and Meagher, 2004). Quality of governance is in turn dependent on institutions¹. These institutions can in turn take different forms ranging from the constitution, to local authority by-laws to self-regulation in informal business setting. These institutions collectively determine the governance framework in a country. Different governance frameworks yield varying political, economic and social outcomes. As Kaimenyi and Meagher (2004) note, these differences emanate from the differences in the rules, organizing capabilities, social and political principles captured in the governance concept. Devolution, the focus of this topic on its impact to economic development potentialities is one such concept on governance. Devolution has been a political response to the ills plaguing fragile and plural societies, such as, conflicts, inequalities, rent seeking, economic stagnation, corruption and inefficient use of public resources. Besides, devolution is also implemented as a reaction to external pressure from organized groups (or separatists). For devolution to be effective, however, the criteria of subsidiarity² and consensus³ must be observed (Dent, 2004; Kaimenyi and Meagher, 2004 and Ndung'u, 2014). Devolution affects governance in several ways. First, by distributing authority over public goods and revenues devolution makes it difficult for individuals or groups of official actors to collude and engage in corrupt practices. Second, where devolution of authority takes place along territorial and communal lines, it can foster effective cooperation within the devolved units. As a result, local communities are able to mobilize social pressure against rent seeking and corruption. Indeed, a growing number of countries have over the last three decades further decentralized administrative, fiscal and political functions of central government to sub – national governments. These countries include the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain. In

many cases, devolution has also been driven by the need to bring government closer to the people (Ndung'u 2014).

There are various forms of decentralization. Differences among the frameworks for decentralization of public functions are, however, not clear – cut. Instead, they comprise of a continuum – ranging from a centralized framework to the federal system. Devolution is one form of decentralization framework that lies within the continuum. Devolution is generally defined as a process of transfer of political, administrative and fiscal management powers between central government and lower levels of government, primarily operating at city and region levels (Potter, 2001). It is not just a linear process of power transfer from national to sub – national level but also involves some degree of cooperation between the different levels of government. Other frameworks that lie between are the de - concentration and delegation frameworks. The level of decentralization is determined by several factors. These include; (i) the degree to which the sub – national unit can exercise administrative powers, in terms of recruiting and controlling employees, responding to citizens' feedback and altering services and budgets to match local preferences; (ii) Ability of the local government unit to exercise political authority in terms of initiating policy and overseeing its implementation; and (iii) the local government influence on revenue and expenditure decisions. Scholars have advanced political and economic rationales in support of decentralization of delivery and financing of public good (Ndung'u 2014). These arguments provide theoretical basis for devolution and other frameworks of decentralization. Political scientists present three major rationales for decentralization. First, they argue that decentralization enhances democracy by bringing government closer to the citizens. Second, by establishing different tiers of government, decentralization provides mechanisms for protecting democracy through vertical checks and balances. Third, by distributing authority and responsibility for fiscal management and public service delivery, minorities are given a stake in the system and this helps in conflict management. The key economic rationales for decentralization are well articulated by Musgrave (1959) and Oates (1972). They argue that decentralization may improve governance in public service provision by improving the efficiency of resource allocation. Further, they observe that sub – national governments are closer to the people

than the central government and as a result have better knowledge about local preferences. Local governments are therefore better placed to respond to the diverse needs of the local people. In addition, decentralization narrows the social diversity and subsequently the variation in local preferences.

This reduces the opportunities for conflicts among different community-based projects. Tiebout (1956) notes that decentralization promotes competition among the sub – national governments and thus enhances the chance that governments respond to local needs. As a result, countries are able to attain higher levels of efficiency in the allocation of public resources. Musgrave (1959) further states that decentralization can enhance productive efficiency by promoting accountability, reducing corruption and improving cost recovery. First, by reducing bureaucratic filters decentralization minimizes the likelihood of conflicts between elected officials and civil servants. Second, hard budget constraints, usually set at the sub – national level, compel local governments to minimize the costs of delivering public goods and to optimize on cost recovery. Third, decentralization motivates social cohesion, especially at the local level, which in turn fosters cooperation that is critical in sustaining pressure against corruption. Fourth, Sub –National governments are better positioned to overcome information asymmetry and hence tailor policies and service provision according to local preferences.

Empirical evidence on the impact of devolution depicts mixed results and in some cases, it is inconclusive. For example, a study of the federal state of India suggests that decentralization promotes government responsiveness in service delivery, especially if the media is very active at the local level (Besley and Burgess, 2002). Another study of Italy indicates that devolution may exacerbate regional disparities in public spending and economic outcomes (Calamai, 2009). Azfar et al (2001) finds that local level is hampered by limited information. As a result, devolution does not achieve the desired effects of a locative efficiency. Scholars have identified several factors that may determine the efficiency of decentralization frameworks. First, the establishment of the constitution and a legal framework that spells out the role of each level of government, including the rules governing fiscal arrangements and public service delivery, and

mechanism for conflict resolution (Azfar et al, 2004). Second, the political framework governing the electoral process at the sub – national levels facilitates the direct participation of the users of services in the elections of political leaders. As a result, locally elected officials are compelled to pay keen attention to the demands of electorate at the local level. The outcomes of devolution are also influenced by the electoral system. For example, proportional representation systems, in a bid to reduce conflict, may opt to increase the representation of the minorities and thus reduce the likelihood of unequal distribution of public goods(Ndungu 2014) As Lijphart (1999) finds, democratically elected officials, however, may not always maximize the welfare of all citizens. For example, majoritarian governments may choose to pursue programmes that maximize the welfare of their majorities at the expense of the others. Third, the success of devolution or other decentralization frameworks depend on the fiscal decentralization framework, which stipulates how the authority to spend and tax is shared among the various levels of government (Azfar et al, 2004). The efficiency of a decentralization framework is high when the inter – governmental fiscal framework is welfare enhancing, incorporates incentives to encourage prudent fiscal management at all government levels and responsibilities to tax and spend at the sub – national levels is accompanied by adequate political authority. For example, Shah (2006) identifies matching grants and tax revenue assignments as incentives that may motivate the enhancement of fiscal effort at the sub – national levels of government. Fourth, to enhance the efficiency of decentralization, information (relating to the costs, beneficiaries, procurement and public service delivery) should be shared with the media, public and among the different levels of government. Fifth, the decentralization framework must allow citizen participation in service delivery (Azfar et al, 2004).

The authors identify several mechanisms through which the citizens participate in service delivery. These are (a) Regular local elections – through which citizens can vote out errant local political leaders; (b) Surveys to solicit citizens’ feedback on improving service delivery (c) Public hearings and call – in lines – for soliciting feedback on local policies; (d) Legal Recourse through which citizens can petition government; (e) Demonstrations (f) ‘Exit’ – where citizens discontinue the use of services that they

are dissatisfied with; (g) Ombudsman – by lodging complaints relating to public service delivery. Sixth, for efficient outcomes of decentralization to be achieved, there must be adequate capacity in the form of human capital, essential equipment and technology, and incentives to motivate government officials to produce the desired. A review of Kenya's history reveals that the country has for the better part of its independent life been a unitary state with a highly centralized government that has, had an overbearing control over the sub – national governments and the other arms of government, namely the legislature and the judiciary (Ndungu 2014). The country has, therefore, not had any real experience with devolution for two reasons. First, the introduction of regionalism, popularly known as 'Majimboism', in 1963 under the Kenya independent Constitution, did not last long. The first government of the independent Kenya, under the leadership of Jomo Kenyatta, amended the constitution soon after the independence in 1964, effectively scrapping the regional governments and replacing them with the central – controlled Provincial Administration and the local government system. Second, the governments established under the Local Government Act cap 265 of the laws of Kenya were not granted significant political, administrative and fiscal powers. Instead, central government retained control of the local governments through the administration officers (hired by the same central government). Many as the genesis of the country's governance and economic management problems see this highly centralized Executive control of the country's public affairs. During the constitutional conference in 2003, devolution was advocated by some groups as one way of reducing the overly centralized power of the executive. There was, however, no consensus on the forms of devolution that the country should adapt. For example, there was no agreement on the levels of devolution that were appropriate for effective governance. In addition, there were differences of opinion with regard to how the fiscal powers should be distributed between the central government and the sub – national units. This should involve measure of welfare which has been ignored by many studies.

A limited set of studies examine the relationship between decentralization and changes in human conditions and livelihoods. The research here focuses on average improvements of human conditions and livelihoods, such as higher levels of education,

lower child mortality, higher rates of immunization, lower unemployment rates, or reduced environmental degradation. Some studies also examine distributional aspects. Most research employs quantitative approaches, mainly impact estimation techniques, at the meso- and macro-level. The findings are largely positive or show mixed results. On the macro-level, Lindaman and Thurmaier (2002) find that a 2-4 percent increase in fiscal decentralization is associated with a one point increase in the Human Development Index. Khaleghian (2004) finds that more politically decentralized low-income countries have higher immunization rates, with the reverse effect in middle-income countries.

At the meso-level, multiple studies report positive associations. King and Oezler (2005) find improved student achievement in Nicaragua with more administrative autonomy. Asfaw et al. (2007) show that fiscal decentralization has a negative effect on rural child mortality in India but less in states with weak political decentralization. Qualitative studies paint a less positive picture. Crawford (2008) finds improved living conditions in Ghana resulted primarily from central government measures or market mechanisms. Mearns (2004) shows adverse effects of decentralization on livelihoods and the environment in Mongolia.

The discrepancy between the findings of quantitative and qualitative studies cannot be definitively explained. It is likely a function of the diverse phenomena and countries being examined, but may also result from issues with research design, methodology and variable measurement in the quantitative research. Qualitative approaches risk misattribution of cause and effect, which can be difficult to sort out if there is insufficient explanation of methods.

Distribution of improvements: A few studies consider the distribution of effects on human conditions and livelihoods. While theory does not provide for a clear mechanism that ensures equitable distribution of benefits, there is an implicit assumption that equity improve due to enhanced democratic conditions and local government responsiveness. This, of course, would be expected to depend on local political conditions and dynamics.

Most studies are conducted at the meso-level using quantitative methods. The findings suggest that positive effects are often unequally distributed, with most accruing to already better-off groups.

2.2.2 Administrative systems and Economic Welfare

People are the heart of effective human services delivery. How these people are treated in the workplace affects the families and individuals they serve. Research in public sector child welfare programs reveals that worker turnover, supervision, and organizational climate play integral roles in successful family reunification and child functioning. Yet human service agencies, particularly those charged with child welfare, face a series of challenges in building and maintaining a skilled and diverse workforce. These challenges include unwanted staff turnover, few qualified candidates, unfilled vacancies, maintenance of skill levels, and weaknesses in supervision and leadership. In addition, workloads are demanding and salaries are comparatively low in a job market that devalues public service.

Performance appraisal, recognition, and reward programs are often inadequate or nonexistent. These dilemmas may soon become even more pronounced, since well over half the states are currently forecasting serious budget shortfalls for the 2002-2003 fiscal years. Human service agencies that seek partnerships with neighborhoods and community experience additional challenges, such as rethinking supervision in the context of decentralized neighborhood settings, finding staff that fit well with community-based practice, and recruiting staff from the community-based projects. Genuine partnering with the community requires skill and judgment in applying the public human resource management principles and practices designed to minimize community and political influences over merit. People wish to secure a decent standard of living, within a context of security and of freedom to express their opinion and to associate. They can achieve this income security not only through productive employment, savings and accumulated assets (such as land and housing), but also through social protection mechanisms. These mechanisms function not only as a protective but also as a productive factor. Workers need income security to make long-term plans for themselves and their families. Workers' income security is also

good for the economy, since it makes effective demand more predictable and provides enterprises with a more productive and flexible workforce. The objective of most social security schemes is to provide access to health care and income security, i.e. minimum income for those in need and a reasonable replacement income for those who have contributed in proportion to their level of income. The Income Security Recommendation, 1944 (No. 67), for instance, focuses on compulsory national social insurance schemes, which in principle also cover the self-employed, and provides for social assistance. In practice, however, it has been very difficult to implement this concept in the case of workers, such as many of the self-employed, who have irregular patterns of income, for whom the concept of earnings itself is difficult to measure and who generally have different social security needs and priorities. The emergence of new contributory schemes for workers in the informal economy has highlighted this need for a wider concept. Many international organizations, including the ILO, also use the broader concept of “social protection”, which covers not only social security but also non-statutory schemes; the Statistical Office of the European Community (Eurostat) includes in its figures for social protection certain social services such as crèches and home help. The goal and concept of decent work match this broader concept of social security. In his first Report to the International Labour Conference, the Director-General of the International Labor Office, Juan Somavia, introduced the “decent work for all” strategy, which established as the primary goal of the ILO “to promote opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work, in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity.

Most of this evidence is based on work undertaken outside the UK and there is a lack of recent research that has attempted to measure role ambiguity and role conflict systematically among social workers in England as a whole. However, three recent studies have looked at this topic, one from the perspectives of students (Higgins et al. 2014) and two from those of newly qualified social workers (Hussein et al. 2013 Carpenter et al. 2015).

Higgins and colleagues (2014) suggested that students felt discouraged from applying social work theories on their practice placement and found it difficult to apply the ‘wider

aspirational' aspects of social work. Students found that 'there was an increasing emphasis on a limited range of 'statutory'-type activities such as meeting targets, completing assessments and obtaining information (p10). Hussein and colleagues (2013) followed up a sample of students into their first two years of practice as children and family or adult social workers. One of the key factors associated both with job satisfaction and intention to stay in their current post was the feeling that their job allowed them to apply their social work values in their practice. Carpenter and colleagues (2015) studied a large sample of newly qualified social workers in children and family services who had been on an induction programme designed to support them in their first year of practice. As hoped, these workers felt clearer about what was expected of them over time but that they also experienced greater role conflict.

While role ambiguity, high role conflict, and low job satisfaction were all statistically associated with stress, the study also suggested that the programme had improved participants' confidence and competence. Some aspects of social work may be 'hidden' from dominant ways of recording their activities but reflect an ongoing commitment to broader principles. This is captured in a small qualitative study from the Irish Republic (Forde and Lynch 2014) – where, as the authors point out, there is a similar climate of fiscal austerity and individualism and a shift of responsibility away from the state towards civil society to that in England. They found that there were examples of what they termed 'creative activism' among social workers who were involved in activities such as coordination an inter professional approach to engaging with the Roma community. Many studies discuss social/political/economic context as a factor affecting the shape and form of decentralization and its ability to improve development outcomes. Some qualitative studies argue that without a participatory political culture, the mechanisms adopted for popular participation in local decision-making remain ineffective. In a study of health decentralization in Uganda, Golooba-Mutebi (2005) finds that offering opportunities for participation is not enough--a participatory culture needs to be fostered. Ntsebeza (2004) argues that decentralization with elected representation is not even compatible with traditional institutions in South Africa.

Some literature suggests that decentralization requires a democratic framework to function properly. Kubal (2006) studies education and health in Chile and finds that local

service provision improved with Chile's democratic transition following the Pinochet regime, and a number of other studies have similar findings. Of course, service delivery can improve under less democratic regimes, such as Suharto in Indonesia and Moi in Kenya, at least for a time. Chile's experience may be partly explained by the economic priorities of Pinochet compared to the subsequent democratic regime.

2.2.3 Human Resource and Economic Welfare

Over the years, the terms "coordination" and "integration," as well as "collaboration" and "linkages," have often been used interchangeably and with varying connotations and meanings. More recent studies have reached some consensus and define coordination as situations where two or more organizations work together, through a formal or informal arrangement, to meet one or more goals such as improving the effectiveness and/or cost-effectiveness of programs, avoiding the unnecessary duplication of services, and improving performance (Trutko et al., 1991; Holcomb et al. 1993). While many of the terms are interchangeable, there is generally a distinction between service integration—which implies logistic and physical proximity—and coordination—which refers to agencies' efforts to work together to achieve specified goals. Clearly, coordination can occur without operational integration, and physical integration does not necessarily improve system or program coordination. Based on this distinction, most of the studies in this area have.

The General Accounting Office (GAO) categorized service coordination efforts as either "system-oriented" or "service-oriented" depending on their goals (GAO 1992). System-oriented efforts have ambitious goals that are focused on reforming the delivery system. These types of efforts are intended to: (1) develop new human service delivery systems or alter the way existing agencies are structured, (2) create new services to fill gaps in available services or address unmet client needs, and (3) reduce conflicts and inconsistencies among service programs to make it easier for clients to apply to and be accepted by programs. To accomplish their goals, these efforts seek to change the way agencies plan and fund programs.

Most state and local initiatives to coordinate services fall into the service-oriented model focused on coordination rather than service integration. While the coordination of service delivery systems usually takes place at the local level, studies have shown that the initiative to coordinate may either be locally developed ("bottom-up" coordination) or may be encouraged or imposed by federal or state officials ("top-down" coordination) (Trutko et al. 1991; Bailis 1989). With top-down integration, federal and state officials may promulgate "requirements" that local agencies coordinate the delivery of specific types of services, or offer advice or incentives to promote collaboration. Coordination is often mandated in legislation; at other times, requirements are contained in administrative communications ranging from personal initiatives of key officials, to joint policy statements, to agency regulations. For example, the new Workforce Investment Act promotes "top-down" coordination by requiring the establishment of state and local Workforce Investment Boards and the submission of state and local plans detailing how coordination occur According to Trutko et al. (1991), "top-down" initiatives to promote coordination are sometimes influential in shaping the decisions made by local program administrators.

The initial idea to coordinate service delivery may come from local elected officials or local program administrators as a way to facilitate obtaining services for their clients, sharing costs, or improving administrative efficiency. The presence of strong local advocates for coordination in situations like these can be a major factor in initiating and maintaining a coordinated relationship. However, those at the federal or state level cannot rely upon local initiatives such as these for efforts they hope be implemented throughout their jurisdictions, and they cannot expect "bottom-up" initiatives to show any consistent pattern or model. A study by Holcomb et al. (1993) of one-stop service integration found considerable variation across a number of dimensions, including the scope of the service coordination.

This includes activities involving client services such as intake and eligibility determination, assessment and case management, and delivery of employment and training services. In addition, coordination can occur around activities involving agency

operations such as planning, training and information exchange, integrated MIS systems, and collocation of facilities. Coordination can involve different populations of constituents including all job seekers, disadvantaged workers, dislocated workers, Unemployment Insurance claimants, welfare recipients, youth, homeless, and ex-offenders. Several studies point to the substantial benefits of coordination which can potentially accrue to both clients and programs (Trutko et al. 1991; Holcomb et al. 1993).

From the agency perspective, the primary benefit of coordination is to eliminate the costly duplication of services and to refocus resources on the provision of new or expanded services. Agencies may also experience access to additional resources, greater flexibility in using funds, the ability to offer a wider range of services targeted at client needs, increased knowledge and communication among agency staff, enhanced ability to serve different target groups, and an improved image with clients, employers, and the community served. While there are clearly benefits to coordination, the literature emphasizes that it is important to view coordination as a means to end—namely, a more effective and comprehensive service delivery system for clients to improve their long-term outcomes—rather than an end in and of itself. Grubb et al. (1990), finding only very limited duplication in the provision of services even with relatively uncoordinated efforts, stressed that the primary goal of service coordination should be to make programs more effective. Bailis (1989) emphasizes that service integration efforts cannot be judged by the coordination process (as he finds most studies have done) but whether it achieved the intended results of greater effectiveness, reduced costs, and fewer demands on clients.

Nightingale (1989) note that there is a common fear among agencies that coordination may somehow result in the agency being taken over or in a loss of decision-making autonomy. Even officials who can clearly see the benefits of coordination are often fearful of yielding their authority to another agency or relinquishing control outside of their own agency. The Trutko et al. (1991) study of JTPA coordination cites several barriers closely related to turf issues, including different perspectives on performance and service to clients, fear of loss of agency autonomy, distrust of the agencies, and lack

of ownership. One common problem in service coordination efforts is that agencies often perceive their missions to be different. Each state and local program has its own philosophy regarding which clients should be served, how they should be served, and how success should be measured. Trutko et al. (1991) note that JTPA is often described as being "performance driven" because of its emphasis on performance standards and the involvement of the private sector. The Employment Service generally emphasizes finding workers for employers, and past welfare programs have widely varying philosophies and missions. Holcomb et al. (1993) note other differences that can deter service coordination, including the relative emphasis on social services versus employment and training; viewing participation in employment and training as a requirement, an entitlement, or an option; and the importance of cost considerations. These philosophical differences across agencies may lead to an exacerbation of turf issues or other coordination problems. Employment, training, education, and welfare programs are accountable to various oversight bodies, and they generally must provide evidence on their performance.

Holcomb et al. (1993) found that the performance standards that each program is accountable for can differ substantially, altering perspectives of agency administrators and complicating efforts to coordinate. For example, in the past, JTPA was judged on job placement standards and jobs on participation rates. In addition, programs may be reluctant to refer participants to other agencies if they cannot be assured of receiving credit for positive outcomes. Burbridge and Nightingale (1989) note that some agencies may be discouraged from integrated service delivery because of the loss of control over the flow of clients through the system and difficulty in meeting numeric service goals. One of the most frequently encountered barriers to service integration is inconsistency in data collection and management across programs. This barrier is mentioned in most studies of service integration and coordination. The study by Holcomb et al. (1993) on one-stop service coordination attributes incompatibility in data collection systems to several factors, including JTPA eligibility requirements and performance standards that drive the system's data collection; less complex data collection for employment service and vocational education programs; and the different concerns of welfare departments,

such as attendance d While the studies discussed above raise issues about the coordination of employment and training services generally, a number of researchers have looked specifically at issues involving the coordination of the welfare and workforce development systems.

Several recent studies have focused on measuring the level of coordination between the workforce and welfare systems and have generally found relatively low levels of service coordination. The Urban Institute developed typologies that classify state-level agreements or arrangements between JTPA and welfare-to-work efforts (Nightingale et al. 1997). These typologies document the extent to which formal state-level agreements exist between JTPA and welfare-to-work efforts or whether there have been major state-level reorganizations related to welfare reform. Pines and Callahan (1997) find some coordination between the workforce and welfare system; however, the coordination between these systems lagged behind service integration in the areas of school-to-work and one-stop shops. This study concludes that coordination was greater in these programs because the school-to-work and one-stop shops were specifically designed by federal sponsors to incorporate an integrated approach. The authors find that coordination occurs best when authority is devolved to the states but with either strong encouragement or a federal requirement for integrated planning and implementation.

Finally, one study (Elliott et al. 1998) used site visits to 13 states to identify major workforce development issues and gauge how their workforce programs were being affected by the newly enacted welfare legislation. This study found that states' workforce development systems were maintaining their own identity and, in most cases, remained administratively distinct from welfare-to-work programs operated through TANF.

2.2.4 Community -based projects participation

The reasons people participation cover a diverse range of factors including; life stages, cultural background, socio economic factors such as education and income level as well as opportunities to be involved and simply a personal desire to be involved (Low et al 2007). Much of the research in this area has been carried out in the formal volunteering world of social welfare and the public participation fields rather than within community -

based projects participation (Brodie et al 2009). Human beings have harnessed the natural world for their own gain over the millennia (Porritt 2007). Perhaps one of our greatest strengths was the realization that we were more productive when organized in groups rather than working as individuals. Humans have taken this way of organizing to complex levels of legal, political and financial systems with cultural institutions for sport, arts and entertainment as well as informal networks within community – this is social capital (Porritt 2007; Green & Brock 2005; Newman & Dale 2005).

Social capital contains an implicit belief that working in groups or networks is a better way of effecting change compared to individual effort (Newman & Dale 2005). It is this idea that is harnessed in Transition Towns and the creation of networks as a way of addressing local sustainability issues and wider global concerns (Transition Network 2011). Networks are constructive as they are based on trust and reciprocity and the more formal and informal networks the greater the trust within the community -based projects (Lowndes 2006).

Governments have become more interested in social capital, as high stocks of social capital can be used to save money and reduce services (Porritt 2007). Publishing in 2007 he perhaps did not realize how poignant this statement would be with the recession just one year later. Little would he know that in October 2010 the newly installed coalition government would deliver a Comprehensive Spending Review that was considered by many to be extremely damaging to poor people by reducing public sector spending and thus services to community (Dorling 2011).

Different types of people participate to varying degrees across a range of activities and across their lifetimes (Brodie et al 2009; Low et al 2007). Many myths have existed about certain groups not participating whether that be through age, gender, ethnicity or socio economic group and some of these issues are set out in the following sections of this review. Levels of formal volunteering are highest in the 35 – 64 age bracket and more women (64%) than men (54%) are likely to be involved (Low et al 2007). Whereas older people (over 65's) take part more often in democratic elections (Power Inquiry

2006). Rural older people participate more in formal volunteering and community -based projects participation than their urban counterparts (Kneale 2011).

Adults whose parents participated whilst they were children often demonstrate higher levels of -based projects participation. Belonging to organizations like the Scouts and Guides can lead to higher levels of formal participation in adulthood (Brodie et al 2009). As the UK's population ages a two - fold need is being created, participation is needed to support the aging population as well as participation being needed from the retired (Merrill 2007). A greater understanding of the motivations for participation may help to support this as a growth area of participation. It is a basic and universal human desire to belong (Baumeister & Leary 1995). In evolutionary terms this has been beneficial for survival, finding food, caring for children and protection against predators are all best accomplished within a group rather than individually(ibid).

Hogg & Vaughan (2011) states that we all belong to groups via a range of non-choice factors such as our gender, ethnicity, language spoken, religion or the country we live in. There are of course groups we choose to be part of such as social groups, family groups and task groups. Human beings suffer psychologically if they do not have strong social bonds (Perlman & Peplau 1984). Research demonstrates that married people live longer than unmarried or widowed ones and are healthier overall (Baumeister & Leary 1995). Prison has long been used as a punishment with solitary confinements being the ultimate punishment we inflict on people. Soldiers are less likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder if they perceive themselves to have high support levels (ibid). Evidence has also demonstrated that the Commons dilemma (people using up renewable resources for short term gain) is reduced if belongingness is increased (Newman & Dale 2005).

All these factors demonstrate the value of belonging Identity refers to people's sense of themselves, how they view the world, how they live their lives (Crompton & Kasser 2009). People derive a high level of self-esteem from group membership which gives them a positive identity (Amiot and Hornsey 2010). People often feel a sense of

uncertainty and being part of a group can give them a strong sense of identity and help them to feel more comfortable (Hogg 2012; Hohman et al 2010).

The group has a set of known and accepted way to behave and this makes most people feel much more comfortable with them as the rules are clear. Hogg (2012) states that the higher the entitativity (what makes the group groupy), the lower the level of uncertainty that a person feels. A shared goal is the recognition that to achieve the goal a larger number of people working interdependently are more likely to achieve success (Hogg & Vaughan 2011). Goals that people share can be both extrinsic and intrinsic (Crompton and Kasser 2009). Extrinsic goals tend to be those that focus on status, wealth, rewards and achievements whereas intrinsic goals are focused on a sense of belonging in a community-based projects, self-acceptance and affiliation (ibid). If people are concerned about environmental issues they are likely to join an environmental or conservation group as they recognize that action amongst a group of likeminded people is likely to achieve more than a lone actor (Hogg & Vaughan 2011).

The experience of 'community-based projects' is inherently considered a desirable aspect of society but this hides the many perceived and real tensions lying just below the surface (Gilchrist 2003). The range of groups, clubs and societies that exist within community-based projects often reflect the prevailing cultural norms and can therefore perpetuate the existing inequalities such as power and privilege (Gilchrist 2000). Groups and associations can also exist for what many would not consider to be for the public good such as the British National Party, but thought has to be given to whose definition of 'public good' is used? (Carothers 2000). Having clean air can be seen as a 'public good' but then so can low energy bills (ibid). Although many of these groups or engagement opportunities appear to be open to all there are a range of barriers to why people may not take part in community-based projects activities (Brodie et al 2009; Rai 2008; Low et al 2007). The barriers to engagement have been much researched and this is often utilized by professionals working with community to try to increase participation. Being excluded lowers your sense of identity and belongingness as well as reducing your self-esteem and for some people reduces their sense of meaningful existence (Nezlek et al 2012).. This fear can also lead people, who disagree with the

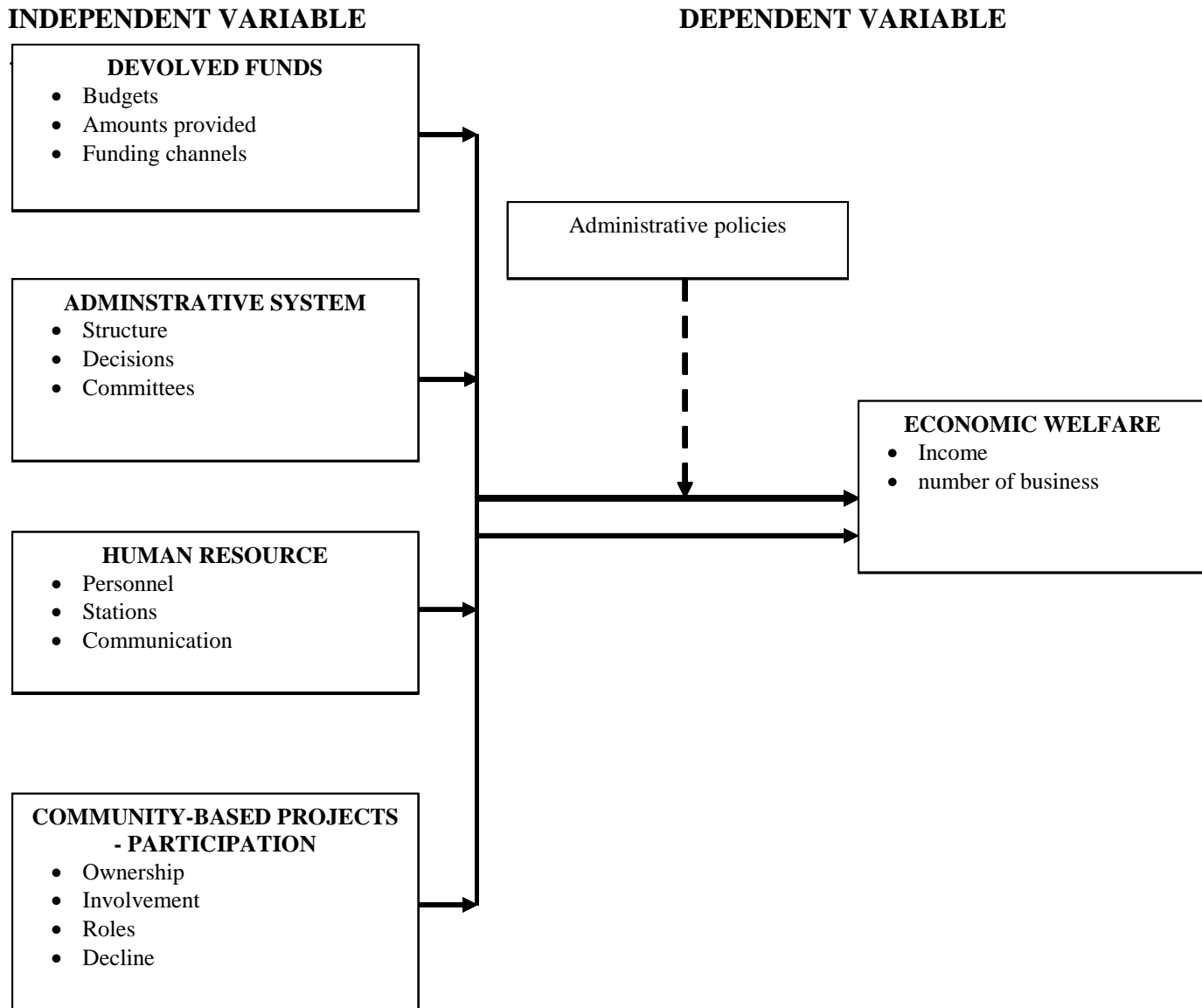
group decision, to conform for fear of being disapproved of and alienated by the group and thus their participation is not inclusive (Hogg & Vaughan, 2011).

2.3 Conceptual frame work

A conceptual framework is a set of broad ideas and principles taken from relevant fields of enquiry and used to structure a subsequent presentation (Kombo & Tromp, 2009). A conceptual framework is a research tool intended to assist a researcher to develop awareness and understanding of the situation under scrutiny and to communicate it, thus potentially assist a researcher to make meaning of subsequent findings. It forms part of the agenda for negotiation to be scrutinized, tested, reviewed and reformed as a result of investigation and it explains the possible connections between the variables (Smyth, 2004). Unlike theory, a concept is an abstract or general idea inferred or deduced from specific instance therefore it does not need to be discussed to be understood. The model we developed proposed that structural change includes devolved funds, administrative systems, human resources and community based projects can be as independent variables influence economic welfare. Economic welfare is the dependent variable while administrative policies are the intervening variable.

The study was guided by the following conceptual framework.

Figure 2. 1: Conceptual Framework



2.4 Summary of Literature Review and Research Gaps

Inclusive participation should not just be about complying with legal processes but inclusive participation in its own right should be valued. Community benefit enormously when people participate without gender, age, race, religion or socio-economic bias (Merrill 2007). The benefits go beyond the immediate community and impact on the sustainable development agenda (Newman & Dale 2005). By participating in their community-based projects, peoples intrinsic values, their concern about family, friends and the wider community are strengthened (Crompton & Kasser 2010).

Research has shown that the more people prioritize intrinsic values the more concern they show for environmental issues (ibid). Therefore community with high levels of community-based projects participation could lead the way in furthering the sustainable development agenda. Studies have established that local governments have become the centres for devolution in the world as has been confirmed by various reports like the ADB, 2003 in Kenya and other African countries.

Though many studies have been carried out on devolution no study has been carried out to establish how devolved funding is affecting the overall social economic welfare of the target groups particularly in Kenya. Klugman (1994) argues that advocates of decentralization from economic and political schools of thought attribute their support for a greater transfer of authority towards sub national tiers of government to their negative perception of the capacity of central governments to deliver public services efficiently. However, Klugman does not show in his argument, how efficiency emanating from the transfer of authority to sub national tiers of government has led to the improvement of citizen welfare. In his view, Warner's, (2003) points that Successful decentralization requires administrative and financial capacity and effective citizen participation, but many rural governments lack an adequate revenue base or sufficient professional management capacity. In his argument, Warner's fail to cite any case where strong administrative, financial capacity and effective citizen participation has led to improvement in socio-economic welfare of citizens enjoying devolved services. Segatti (1992); observes that the Northern Italian Leagues were the first to heavily base their devolutionary claims on economic demands, after their relative failure to gain visibility by using traditional ethnic or linguistic arguments; Nationalist and regionalist parties in Spain have increasingly resorted to similar arguments, as indeed have the Zapatistas in Chiapas. This devolutionary trend though making economic sense has not explained how their citizens have benefited from it in terms of social economic welfare improvement. It is this gap that motivated this research to establish how devolved funding is impacting on the social economic welfare of Kenyans and recommend on measures to be taken to improve on the performance of devolved funding. This would reinforce the role of local

authorities as nucleus of development as spelled in the objectives of various devolved funds.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter focuses on the methodology to be used in the study. It describes the research design, the target population, sample size and the sampling procedure, methods of data collection, the pilot study, the validity and reliability of the instruments and data analysis.

3.1 Research Design

The study adopted a descriptive survey design. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), survey research refer to an attempt to collect data from members of a population in order to determine the current status of the population with respect to one or more variables. Descriptive research takes two approaches; quantitative or qualitative, it can involve collections of quantitative information that can be tabulated along a continuum in numerical form, such as scores on a test or the number of times a person chooses to use a- certain feature of a multimedia program. Because the human mind cannot extract the full import of a large mass of raw data, descriptive statistics are very important in reducing the data to manageable form. It therefore involves a systematic collection of data on an entity or a group of entities or operations and drawing conclusions from what the data shows. It is based on the theory that random samples can often furnish similar information as a census at a relatively lower cost but with greater efficiency and accuracy.

3.2 Target Population

The target population of this research consisted of 100 devolved structure operators, beneficiaries and managers in Lurambi, Kakamega County They included; County administration's budgetary allocation committees, C.B.O's representation, NG-CDF committee members, women and youth groups representatives and business fraternity.

Respondents	Number Targeted	
NG - Constituency Development Fund Committee member	8	
Business Fraternity Representatives	15	
County Administrations Budgetary Allocation Committee	8	
C.B.O's Representatives	12	
Youth Group's Representatives	15	
Women Group's Representatives	15	
Project management Committee's representative	27	27
Total	100	

Table 3. 1: Distribution of Target Population

Source: Researcher 2018

3.3 Sample Size and sampling procedures

3.3.1 Sample Size

The study used a census as the number was small enough and the respondent had the necessary information required for the study.

3.3.2 Sampling Procedure

Given the small number of the target population (100 devolved structure operators, beneficiaries and managers) and the unique nature of the required data, purposive sampling (census) was used in this study to obtain enough representation.

Table 3. 2: Distribution of target population and number of respondents

Respondents	Number Targeted	Number Sampled	Proportion Percentage of Total	Percentage of Target
NG - Constituency Development Fund Committee member	8	8	8	100
Business Fraternity Representatives	15	15	15	100
County Administrations Budgetary Allocation Committee	8	8	8	100
C.B.O's Representatives				100
	12	12	12	
Youth Group's Representatives	15	15	15	100
Women Group's Representatives	15	15	15	100
Project management Committee's representative				
	27	27	27	100
Total	100	100	100	100

Source: Researcher 2018

3.4 Research Instruments

The study's overall aim to investigate the influence of government structural change on economic welfare of the residents of Lurambi Sub-County, this informed the use of questionnaires and interviews as the main tools of collecting data. The questionnaire is an ideal instrument to gather descriptive information from a large sample in a fairly short time, as well as it can be answered at the convenience of the respondent and picked at a later time (Kothari, 2004). The study used self-designed questionnaires, both structured and unstructured as the researcher was concerned with the views, opinions and perceptions of the respondents. Such information could best be collected through the use of questionnaires and interview technique as proposed by (Bell, 1993).

3.4.1 Pilot Testing

A pilot study was conducted in order to test the reliability and validity of the questionnaires with the aim of testing the logic, clarity and ease of understanding the design of the questions. It also tested whether the time taken by respondents to fill the

questionnaires and whether the responses were exhaustive. It was carried out on a sample consisting of 10% of the respondents and any question found to be interpreted differently was rephrased to make the same meaning to all the respondents with the views of the respondents being analyzed in order to improve the questionnaires before the actual data collection. This was carried out in the neighboring constituency of Shinyalu, which shares the experiences with Lurambi Sub-County.

3.4.2 Validity of the instruments

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999), validity refers to the degree of accuracy and meaningfulness or inferences drawn from the results of the research results. That is the degree to which the data analysis results actually represents the phenomenon under study. Validity, therefore tests the correlation between the accuracy levels of the data collected from the study and its representation of the variables of the study. In this study, validity was examined through the ability of the test instruments to measure the intended variables. As such, pre-test was conducted through pilot study in which availability of any deficiencies were checked in terms of unclear instructions and wrong phrasing of questions. Thus, this ensured research content validity.

3.4.3 Reliability of instruments

Reliability refers to the degree to which instruments yield consistent data or results after repeated trial (Mugenda and Mugenda 1999). It is an indication of the stability and consistency of the data collection instrument in measuring the concept. In order to increase the reliability of the data collected, a test – retest technique was done by administering questionnaires to a group of individuals with similar characteristics as the actual sample size. The test was repeated after two weeks and the scores obtained from both tests were correlated to get the coefficient of reliability. This was done in Shinyalu Constituency.

3.5 Data Collection procedure

The researcher collected both primary and secondary for purposes of drawing conclusions and recommendations. Primary data was collected using structured questionnaires and interviews were administered by the researcher. The questionnaires comprised of questions seeking to answer the research questions for this study. They were

administered to the beneficiaries and operators of the devolved funds in Lurambi constituency. Secondary data was obtained from books, government reports, economic survey, journals and periodicals.

3.6 Data Analysis Techniques

This began with pre – processing of data through editing to detect errors and omissions and making corrections where possible and necessary. Statistical techniques employed in data analysis included Frequencies and means. Results were considered significant at 5% α -level. Data was analyzed by use of descriptive method including percentages, mean and deviations: inferential statistics including the chi-square.

3.8. Ethical Considerations

The following ethical considerations were observed. First, voluntary and informed consent of the respondents was sought and observed. Secondly confidentiality and privacy were observed, respondents were protected by keeping information provided confidential. If information had to be shared then the consent of the respondent was sought. To add on this, any work from any source other than mine was acknowledged. Lastly, the identity of individuals was protected by either using numbers or pseudo names to keep them anonymous.

3.9. Summary

This chapter focused on descriptive research design. Census of 100 respondents was used purposively. A pilot study was done in the neighbouring constituency. Descriptive statistics including percentages, mean and deviations: inferential statistics including the chi-square were presented. Ethical issues such as voluntary participation, confidentiality of the information gathered and following the university requirement have been presented.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents findings of the study which have been discussed under thematic and sub-thematic sections in line with the study objectives. The thematic areas include; demographic characteristics of respondents, devolved funds, administrative structures, human resource, and community-based projects participation of Lurambi , Kakamega.

4.1.2 Questionnaire return rate

The researcher was interested in knowing about the questionnaires return rate. This owes to the fact that the return rate determines whether bias exists or does not. Nevertheless it was of important because declining survey participation rates threaten the source of information and its perceived utility and thereby allowing for biasness in the data collected, (National Research Council, 2013). This was presented as in table 4.1.

Table 4. 1: Sample population and response rate

Category	Sample Size	Response	Return Rate % of Total	% of category
NG-Constituency Development Fund Committee members	8	7	7	100
Business Fraternity Representatives	15	14	14	93.3
County Administration's Budgetary Allocation Committee	8	8	8	100
C.B.O's Representatives	12	11	11	91.67
Youth Group's Representatives	15	13	13	86.67
Women Group's Representatives	15	13	13	86.67
Project Management Committee Members	28	22	22	78.57
	100	87	87	87

Source: Researcher 2018

Results from table 4.1 revealed response rates respectively with their percentages. NG - Constituency development fund committee members had a 7% of total (100%) return rate

followed by business representatives 14% (93.3% of category), County administration's budgetary allocation committee 8% (100% of category), C.B.O's representatives 11% (91.7 of category), Youth group's representatives at 13% (86.7% of category), Women Group's Representatives 13% (86.7% of category), and lastly Project Management Committee Members 22 % (78.57% of category). The overall return rate was 87% which is acceptable.

4.1.3. Demographic factors

The study was interested in establishing demographic characteristics of the population concerned. Various elements within demographics were studied including; respondents gender, age, highest educational qualification, economic status, and respondents area of residence. Results obtained from the study are presented in tables that follow;

Table 4. 2: Frequency distribution on Respondent's gender

Gender	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Male	38	43.7	43.7
Female	49	56.3	56.3
Total	87	100.0	100.0

Source: Researcher 2018

Results from table 4.2 indicate that 38 (43.7%) among the respondents were males whereas 49 (56.3%) were females. This implied that more females than males participated in the study. This was followed by the second characteristic to be studied, respondent's age, whose results were as shown in table 4.3;

Table 4. 3: Frequency distribution on Respondent's age

	Age	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	below 20 years	2	2.3	2.3
	20 - 30 years	7	8.0	8.0
	31 - 40 years	29	33.3	33.3
	above 40 years	49	56.3	56.3
	Total	87	100.0	100.0

Source: Researcher 2018

Results from table 4.3 revealed that majority of respondents were above 40 years of age as represented by 49 (56.3%), followed by those within 31 – 40 years represented by 29 (33.3%), 20 – 30 years of age represented by 7 (8.0%) and finally the least stood in the below 20 years bracket 2 (2.3%). This was followed by education qualification. Results from the factor were as shown in table 4.4;

Table 4. 4: Frequency distribution on Respondent's education qualification

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Semi-literate	3	3.4	3.4
primary level	31	35.6	35.6
K.C.S.E (O level)	26	29.9	29.9
Diploma graduate	27	31.0	31.0
Total	87	100.0	100.0

Source: Researcher 2018

Results from table 4.4 revealed that majority of respondent's highest educational qualification was Primary Level as represented by 31 (35.6%), followed by Diploma graduates represented by 27 (31.0%), those who qualified with K.C.S.E were represented by 26 (29.9%), and finally the semi-literate respondents were 3 (3.4%). The study further made an enquiry into the respondent's economic status and the results were as shown in table 4.5;

Table 4. 5: Frequency distribution on Respondent's economic status

Economic status	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
low-class income	41	47.1	47.1
lower-middle class income	41	47.1	47.1
middle-level income	5	5.7	5.7
Total	87	100.0	100.0

Source: Researcher 2018

Results from table 4.5 revealed that a joint majority of respondent's economic status were described to be from lower-class and lower middle class income economic status as shown with 41 (47.1%) followed by a minority that were middle-level income

earners represented by 5 (5.7%). This implied that majority of the respondents in the study were from low-class and lower middle class income levels of economic status. The study lastly sought to establish whether a respondent's area of residence as a factor within demographics influenced the study and results obtained were as shown in table 4.6;

Table 4. 6: Frequency distribution on Respondent's area of residence

Area of residence	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Urban residence	27	31.0	31.0
Rural residence	60	69.0	69.0
Total	87	100.0	100.0

Source: Researcher 2018

Results from table 4.6 revealed that majority of respondents hailed from rural residences as presented by 60 (69.0%) and followed by those hailing from urban residences at 27 (31.0%).

4.2. Devolved funds

This was the first objective of the study whereby it sought to establish how devolved funds within the government structure influenced improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County. On a scale of; Extremely satisfied , Very satisfied, Moderately satisfied, Slightly satisfied and not satisfied, the study sought to gather responses from the population on the influences of factors within devolved funds and the results were as presented as follows;

4.2.1. Budgets allocated

The study sought to compare categorical responses and their relationship to budgets allocated as a factor within devolved funds and its influence on improvement of economic welfare and the results were obtained in a conducted contingency table analysis followed by its chi – statistical analysis to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.8; at least 88.8% % were of the opinion that budgets allocated influence and improve the economic welfare of the people.

Table 4. 7: Cross tabulation: Economic welfare & budgets allocated

		E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Budgets allocated Improve Economic welfare	Yes	34 51.5%	18 27.3%	10 15.2%	4 6.1%	66 100.0%
	No	4 19.0%	7 33.3%	8 38.1%	2 9.5%	21 100.0%
	Total	38 43.7%	25 28.7%	18 20.7%	6 6.9%	87 100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A chi – statistic conducted by the study established a very significant association between budgets allocated and improvement in economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 8.379 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .039 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 8: Chi-Square Tests: Budgets allocated and Economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig.(2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.379(a)	3	.039
	8.574	3	.036
Linear-by-Linear Association	6.717	1	.010
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018**4.2.2. Amounts provided**

The study sought to compare categorical responses and their relationship to amounts provided for economic welfare of community-based projects as a factor within devolved funds and its influence on improvement of economic welfare and the results were obtained in a conducted contingency table analysis followed by its chi –statistical analysis to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.11. At least 88.8% % were very much satisfied of the fact that the amounts provided influence the economic welfare of the people.

Table 4. 9: Cross tabulation; economic welfare and amounts provided

Amount provided		E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Amounts provided improve of economic welfare	Yes	35	17	9	5	66
		53.0%	25.8%	13.6%	7.6%	100.0%
	No	4	8	7	2	21
		19.0%	38.1%	33.3%	9.5%	100.0%
Total		39	25	18	6	87
		44.8%	28.7%	20.7%	6.9%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A chi –statistic conducted by the study established a very significant association between amounts provided for improvement in economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 8.384 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .039 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 10: Chi-Square Tests - Amounts provided and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.384(a)	3	.039
Likelihood Ratio	8.721	3	.033
Linear-by-Linear Association	5.534	1	.019
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.2.3. Funding Channels

The study sought to compare categorical responses and their relationship with funds channels in the county enabling proper funds disbursement for economic welfare of community-based projects as a factor within devolved funds and its influence on improvement of economic welfare and the results were obtained in a conducted contingency table analysis followed by its chi – statistical analysis to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.14;

Table 4.11: Relationship with funds channels and economic welfare

				ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Improvement in economic welfare	Yes			34	19	9	4	66
				51.5%	28.8%	13.6%	6.1%	100.0%
	No			9	7	4	1	21
				42.9%	33.3%	19.0%	4.8%	100.0%
	Total			38	28	15	6	87
				43.7%	32.2%	17.2%	6.9%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

From table 4.14, at least 75.9% were very much satisfied of the fact that fund channels influence the economic welfare of the people.

A chi – statistic conducted by the study established a very significant association between the economic welfare with funding channels in the county enabling proper funds disbursement for improvement in economic welfare of communities in Lurambi, Kakamega county as a chi-square value of 7.163 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .067 likelihood in association slightly above an alpha level of .05 thereby revealing a very slight relationship between the variables.

This is depicted as follows;

Table4.12:Chi-Square Tests; funding channels and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-SSided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.163(a)	3	.067
Likelihood Ratio	7.597	3	.055
Linear-by-Linear Association	5.348	1	.021
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.2.4. Funds accessibility

The study sought to compare categorical responses and their relationship to accessibility of funds through groups and or individuals for economic welfare of community-based projects as a factor within devolved funds and its influence on improvement of economic welfare.

Results were obtained and chi – statistical analysis tested for significance as shown in table 4.17;

Table 4.13: Cross tabulation; Economic welfare & groups and/or individuals funds

Groups and/or individuals Funds accessibility				VS	MS	SS
				ES		
Groups and/or individuals funds improve economic welfare	Yes			48	11	4
				72.7%	16.7%	6.1%
				3	4	66
	No			9	7	4
				42.9%	33.3%	19.0%
				1	4	21
	Total			57	18	8
				65.5%	20.7%	9.2%
				4	8	87

Source: Researcher 2018

The majority, 65.5% were extremely in support of the fact that individual and /group funds influence the economic welfare of the people.

A chi – statistic conducted by the study established a very significant association between accessibility of funds through groups and or individuals for economic welfare of community-based projects for improvement in economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.232 at a corresponding degree of freedom of df = 3 drawing a .065 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 14:Chi-Square Tests; Groups /individuals funds and economic welfare

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.232(a)	3	.065
Likelihood Ratio	6.795	3	.079
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.163	1	.041
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.2.5. Funds allocation and existence of groups

The study sought to compare categorical responses and their relationship to allocation of funds depending on existence of a community-based projects project as a collateral for economic welfare of community-based projects as a factor

within devolved funds and its influence on improvement of economic welfare and the results were obtained in a conducted contingency table analysis followed by its chi – statistical analysis to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.20;

Table 4. 15: Cross tabulation; Economic welfare and Group existence

Allocation and community-based projects and or security		ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Allocation on community-based projects and security improve economic welfare	Yes	34 51.5%	13 19.7%	7 10.6%	12 18.2%	66 100.0%
	No	10 47.6%	5 23.8%	6 28.6%	0 .0%	21 100.0%
	Total	44 50.6%	18 20.7%	13 14.9%	12 13.8%	87 100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A chi – statistic conducted by the study established a very significant association between allocation of funds depending on existence of a community-based projects as a collateral for improvement in economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.437 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .059 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 16:Chi-Square Allocation of funds and Collateral

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.437(a)	3	.059
Likelihood Ratio	9.784	3	.020
Linear-by-Linear Association	.276	1	.599
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.2.6. Proper design of administrative systems

To establish categorical relationships between variables and their corresponding response, the study conducted a cross tabulation and the results were as shown in table 4.23;

Table 4.17:: improvement of economic welfare administrative structures

Proper design of Administrative Structures		ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Administrative structures with proper design improve in economic welfare	Yes	34 51.5%	12 18.2%	9 13.6%	11 16.7%	66 100.0%
	No	4 19.0%	6 28.6%	5 23.8%	6 28.6%	21 100.0%
	Total	38 43.37%	18 20.7%	14 16.1%	17 19.5%	87 100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

The study tested for significance in association by conducting chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between properly designed administrative structures and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 6.856 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drew a .077 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 18:Chi-Square Tests administrative structures and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.856(a)	3	.077
Likelihood Ratio	7.352	3	.061
Linear-by-Linear Association	5.090	1	.024
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.3. Administrative systems and economic welfare

This was the second objective of the study where the research sought to establish whether, factors within human resource within government structures influenced improvements of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi,

Kakamega County. Respondents were asked for their opinions that were leveled on a scale to measure their satisfaction and the results were as shown as follows;

4.3.1. Administrators qualities

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to administrators meet the necessary requirements before being appointed to serve in the positions as a factor within administrative systems and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.25;

Table 4. 19: Cross tabulation: economic welfare and administrators appointment

Administrators appointment	E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Administrators appointment improve Yes	36	18	8	4	66
economic welfare	54.54%	27.27%	12.12%	6.06%	100.0%
No	5	8	6	2	21
	23.81%	38.89%	28.57%	9.52%	100.0%
Total	41	26	14	6	87
	47.12%	29.9%	16.1%	6.9%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for significance in association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between administrators meeting requirements before being appointed to serve on these crucial committees and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega county as a chi-square value of 6.774 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drew a .079 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4.20: Chi-Square: Administrators appointment and economic welfare

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.774(a)	3	.079
Likelihood Ratio	6.902	3	.075
Linear-by-Linear Association	5.250	1	.022
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.3.2. Proper board chairing budgetary allocations

A further of responses categorically and their relationship to properly constituted board chairs budgetary allocations as a factor within administrative systems and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.29; 75.8% of the respondents indicated that the budget board chairperson at least influenced the economic welfare.

Table 4. 21: Cross tabulation; economic welfare and a budget board chairperson

Budget Board chair	E.S	VS	MS	SS	Total
Budget board chairperson Yes	47	9	6	4	66
Improve economic welfare	54.02%	10.3%	6.89%	4.6%	75.8%
No	8	7	4	2	21
	9.2 %	8.0%	4.6%	9.5%	100.0%
Total	55	16	10	6	87
	63.2%	18.4%	11.5%	6.9%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between a properly constituted board chairs budgetary allocations and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega county as a chi-square value of 7.776 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drew a .051 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables.

Table 4.22: Chi-Square Tests; Board chair and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.776(a)	3	.051
Likelihood Ratio	7.513	3	.057
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.478	1	.034
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.3.3. Feasibility studies done before project roll-out

A further of responses categorically and their relationship to feasibility studies carried out before project roll out and funding proposals provided and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.32;

Table 4.23: Cross tabulation; Economic welfare and feasibility studies

Feasibility studies	VS	VS	MS	SS	Total
Feasibility studies improve economic welfare Yes	36 41.3%	9 10.3%	15 22.7%	6 6.9%	66 74.7%
No	6 6.9%	3 3.5%	6 6.9%	6 6.9%	21 25.3 %
Total	42 48.3%	12 13.8%	21 24.1%	12 13.8%	87 100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between feasibility studies are carried out before project roll out and funding proposals provided and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 6.840 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drew a .077 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 24: Chi-Square Feasibility studies and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.840(a)	3	.077
Likelihood Ratio	6.455	3	.091
Linear-by-Linear Association	6.189	1	.013
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.3.4. Committees formed

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to committees formed are properly constituted to serve major interests of the community-based projects as a factor within administrative systems and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.35; the respondents who were at least satisfied were 55.1% that the committees influence and improve economic welfare.

Table 4. 25: Cross tabulation; Economic welfare and committees

Committees formed are properly constituted to serve major interests	E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Yes	31 35.6%	17 19.5%	11 12.6%	7 8.0%	66 74.7%
No	8 5.7%	3 3.5%	2 2.3%	8 9.2%	21 25.3%
Total	39 44.8%	20 23.0%	13 14.9%	15 17.2%	87 100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between committees formed are properly constituted to serve major interests of the community-based projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 8.718 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drew a .033 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4.26: Chi-Square Tests- Committees and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.718(a)	3	.033
Likelihood Ratio	7.786	3	.051
Linear-by-Linear Association	3.941	1	.047
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.3.5. Integrity requirements fulfilled

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to integrity issues are dealt with properly before one is selected to serve in committee as a factor within administrative systems and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.38;

Table 4. 27: Cross tabulation; improvement of economic welfare & integrity issues

Integrity in selection to serve in committee of the community-based projects		E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Integrity in selection to serve in committee of the community Improve economic Welfare	Yes	36 41.2%	16 18.4%	9 10.3%	5 5.7%	66 74.7%
	No	6 6.9%	7 8.0%	6 6.9%	2 2.3%	21 25.3%
Total		42 48.3%	23 26.4%	15 17.2%	7 8.0%	87 100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between committees' integrity issues are dealt with properly before one is selected to serve in committee and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 4.861 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .182 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 28:Chi-Square Tests: Committees' integrity issues and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	4.861(a)	3	.182
Likelihood Ratio	4.881	3	.181
Linear-by-Linear Association	3.311	1	.069
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.3.6. Qualified personnel understand Lurambi's Economic landscape

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to committees formed are properly constituted to serve major interests of the community-based projects as a factor within administrative systems and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.41;

Table 4. 29: Cross tabulation; economic welfare and personnel structure

Qualified personnel structure	ES	VS	M.S	S.S	Total
Personnel structure Improve of economic welfare	34	17	10	5	66
	87.2%	70.8%	58.8%	71.4%	75.9%
No	5	7	7	2	21
	12.8%	29.2%	41.2%	28.6%	24.1%
Total	39	24	17	7	87
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between committees integrity issues are dealt with properly before one is selected to serve in committee and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi- square value of 4.861 at a corresponding degree of freedom of df = 3 drawing a .182 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 30: Chi-square tests: committees' integrity issues and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	5.830(a)	3	.120
Likelihood Ratio	5.908	3	.116
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.078	1	.043
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.4. Human resource and improvement of economic welfare

This was the third objective of the study where it sought to elicit views of respondents regarding their levels of satisfaction with factors within government structures and their influence on economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County. Responses were sought on a scale of satisfaction, with underlying sub-themes considered in manner of presentation and analysis. This was as discussed under the following sub-themes;

4.4.1. Contracting business development officers

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to county governments contracting business development officers to conduct training to community-based projects on economic improvement as a factor within human resource within government structure and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.44;

Table 4. 31: Cross tabulation: Economic welfare and Community Training

County contracting business development officers for community-based projects'	E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Yes	34	18	8	6	66
Sub-County contracting business development officers for community-based projects	39.1%	20.7%	9.2%	6.9%	75.9%
No	4	8	7	2	21
Improve economic welfare	4.6%	9.2%	8.0%	2.3%	24.1%
Total	38	26	15	8	87
	43.7%	29.9%	17.2%	9.2%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between County contracting business development officers for community-based projects' economic training and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi,

Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 8.630 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .035 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 32: Chi-Square Tests - Contracting business and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.630(a)	3	.035
Likelihood Ratio	8.768	3	.033
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.828	1	.028
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.4.2. Training stations in agriculture

A further comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to with agricultural training stations being developed and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.47;

Table 4. 33: Cross tabulation Economic welfare and training

Training stations in agricultural stations		E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Training stations in agricultural stations Improve of economic we welfare	Yes	33	19	9	5	66
		37.9%	21.8%	10.3%	5.7%	75.9%
		4	9	6	2	21
	No	4.5%	10.3%	6.9%	2.3%	24.1%
Total		37	28	15	7	87
		42.5%	32.2%	17.2%	8.0%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between training stations in agriculture (farming and dairy, horticulture) have been developed and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 6/705 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .082 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 34:Chi-Square Tests - training and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.705(a)	3	.082
Likelihood Ratio	7.085	3	.069
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.284	1	.038
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.4.3. Trainer ratio-Community-based projects and groups

A further comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to with ratio of trainer: Community-based projects /groups being sufficient and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.50;

Table 4.35: Cross tabulation: Economic welfare and ratio of trainer

Ratio of trainer	E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Ration of trainer Improve economic welfare Yes	46	11	4	5	66
	52.9%	12.6%	4.6%	5.7%	75.9%
No	9	7	4	1	21
	10.4%	8.0%	4.6%	1.1%	24.1%
	55	18	8	6	87
	63.2%	20.7%	9.2%	6.9%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between ratio of trainer; community-based projects (groups) is sufficient and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega county as a chi-square value of 7.059 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .070 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4.36: Chi-Square Tests- ratio of trainer and economic welfare

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.059(a)	3	.070
Likelihood Ratio	6.588	3	.086
Linear-by-Linear Association	2.197	1	.138
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.4.4. Proper Communication channels

A further comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to with ratio of proper communication from the county to community-based projects enhance project initiation and continuity and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.53;

Table 4. 37: Cross tabulation: Economic welfare and communication channels

proper communication from the county to community-based projects		E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Proper communication Improve Economic welfare	Yes	33	12	8	13	66
		37.9%	13.8%	9.2%	14.9%	75.9%
	No	9	5	7	0	21
		10.3%	5.7%	8.0%	.0%	24.1%
		42	17	15	13	87
		47.7%	19.5%	17.2%	14.9%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between proper communication from the county to community-based projects enhance project initiation and continuity and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega county as a chi-square value of 8.721 at a corresponding degree of freedom of df = 3 drawing a .033 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 38:Chi-Square Tests: Communication and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.721(a)	3	.033
Likelihood Ratio	11.194	3	.011
Linear-by-Linear Association	.153	1	.696
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.4.5. Steady feed-back on obstacles by community-based projects

The study sought to compare categorical responses and their relationship to steady feedback in the field faced by communities in attaining set goals (obstacles) for economic welfare of community-based projects as a factor within human resource within government structure and its influence on improvement of economic welfare and the results were obtained in a conducted contingency table analysis followed by its chi – statistical analysis to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.56;

Table 4.39: Cross tabulation: Economic welfare and community-based projects

Steady feedback in the field faced by_community-based projects		E.S	V.S	M.S	S.S	Total
Field faced community based project Improve of economic welfare	Yes	32	17	11	6	66
		36.8%	19.5%	12.6%	6.7%	75.9%
	No	9	2	2	8	21
		10.3%	2.3%	2.3%	9.2%	24.5%
		41	19	13	14	87
	Total	47.1%	33.3%	14.9%	16.1%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

When a test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between steady feedback from the field by community-based projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 10.902 at a corresponding degree of freedom of df = 3 drawing a .012 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4.40: Chi-Square Tests: feedback: community-based projects and economic welfare

	Value	Df	Asymp. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	10.902(a)	3	.012
Likelihood Ratio	9.937	3	.019
Linear-by-Linear Association	3.975	1	.046
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.4.6. Community-based projects needs addressed properly

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to with Community-based projects needs being addressed properly within initiated projects and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.59;

Table 4. 41: Cross tabulation Economic welfare and Community Needs

Community-based projects needs being properly addressed by projects	ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Yes	49	11	4	2	66
	56.3%	12.6%	4.6%	2.3%	75.9%
No	9	6	5	1	21
	10.3%	6.9%	5.6%	1.1%	24.1%
Total	58	17	9	3	87
	66.7%	19.5%	10.3%	3.4%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

When a test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between community-based projects needs are addressed properly within initiated projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega county as a chi-square value of 8.499 at a corresponding degree of freedom of df = 3 drawing a .037 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 42:Chi-square test - community needs and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.499(a)	3	.037
Likelihood Ratio	7.842	3	.049
Linear-by-Linear Association	6.564	1	.010
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.5. Community-based projects participation

This was the fourth objective of the study. Respondents' level of satisfaction was measured on a scale in effort to establishing whether community-based projects participation as a factor within government structure influences improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County. Shackleton et al. (2002) asserts that community participation and community-based projects-based management are topical themes in current policy and discussion revolving around decision-making processes especially those dealing with natural resources management. Community-based projects are seen to be more involved in the implementation of economic project management programs but lack ownership of the projects. This causes lack of commitment to the programs and at times hostile reaction from the community-based projects. The community-based projects are always at the receiving-end when it pertains to losses in the exchange. Community-based projects participation is effective when the local population is involved not as co-operating users but as project resource managers or owner managers. Results from the study were as presented in their respective sub-themes as follows';

4.5.1. Active participation during design of targeted projects

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to active community-based projects participation as a factor within community-based projects participation and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.62;

Table 4.43: Cross tabulation: Economic welfare and participation

Active participation is encouraged during design of targeted economic projects		ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Active participation is encouraged during design of targeted economic projects Improve economic welfare	Yes	33 37.9%	15 17.2%	7 8.0%	11 12.6%	66 75.9%
	No	10 11.5%	5 5.7%	6 6.9%	0 0.0%	21 24.1%
	Total	43 49.4%	20 23%	13 14.9%	11 12.6%	87 100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

When a test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between active participation is encouraged during design of targeted economic projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 6.967 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a p-value of 0.073 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 44:Chi-Square Tests - Active participation and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.967(a)	3	.073
Likelihood Ratio	9.083	3	.028
Linear-by-Linear Association	.233	1	.629
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.5.2. Project management, evaluation and running

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to active community-based projects inclusion as a factor within community-based projects participation and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.65;

Table4.45: Cross tabulation; economic welfare and project management

Project management, evaluation and running belongs to the community-based projects		ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Project management, evaluation and running belongs to the community-based projects Improves of economic welfare	Yes	50	10	4	2	66
		57.3%	11.5%	4.8%	2.9%	75.9%
	No	10	5	5	1	21
		11.5%	5.7%	5.7%	1.5%	24.1%
	Total	10	15	9	3	87
		11.5%	17.2%	10.3%	3.4%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A further test for probability of association that was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a very significant association of between project management, evaluation and running belongs to the community-based projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.512 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a p-value of .057 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4.46 Project management, evaluation and improvement of economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.512(a)	3	.057
Likelihood Ratio	6.816	3	.078
Linear-by-Linear Association	5.781	1	.016
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.5.3. Community-based projects and management

A comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to active community-based projects participation in boards of management as a factor within community-based projects participation and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.68;

Table 4.47: Cross tabulation: economic welfare and board management

management boards to oversee project implementation		ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Community-based projects forms management boards to oversee project implementation Improves economic welfare	Yes	33	14	8	11	66
		37.9%	16.1%	9.2%	12.6%	75.9%
	No	9	6	6	0	21
		10.3%	6.9%	6.9%	.0%	24.1%
	Total	42	20	14	11	87
		48.3%	100.0%	16.1%	12.6%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

When a test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between community-based projects forms management boards to oversee project implementation and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 6.723 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a p-value of .081 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4. 48: Chi-Square Management boards and project implementation

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.723(a)	3	0.081
Likelihood Ratio	8.963	3	0.030
Linear-by-Linear association	131	1	0.718
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018**4.5.4. Project sustainability and policy makers' involvement**

An in-depth comparison of responses categorically and their relationship to project sustainability being encouraged by involving policy makers in the running of the projects as a factor within community-based projects participation and its influence on improvement of economic welfare was conducted on a contingency table and the results were obtained, following their analysis followed by with chi – statistic to test for significance of the relationship between the element and the results were as shown in table 4.71;

Table 4. 49: Improvement of economic welfare and involving policy makers

Project sustainability is encouraged by involving policy makers in the running of the projects		ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Project sustainability is encouraged by involving policy makers in the running of the projects Improves economic welfare	Yes	37	16	9	4	66
		42.5%	14.4%	10.3%	4.6%	75.9%
	No	6	6	8	1	21
		6.9%	6.9%	9.2%	1.4%	24.1%
Total		43	22	17	5	87
		49.4%	25.3%	19.5%	5.7%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between project sustainability is encouraged by involving policy makers in the running of the projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.478 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .058 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table 4.50: Chi-Square tests involving policy makers and economic welfare

	Value	Df	Asymp. (2- sided)
Likelihood Ratio	7.115	3	.068
Pearson Chi-Square	7.478(a)	3	.058
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.330	1	.037
N of valid cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

4.5.5. Community-based projects ownership of projects

The study therefore sought to establish categorical responses within levels of satisfaction to the dependent variable and the responses were as shown in table 4.65

Table 4.513: economic welfare and stage-to-stage management participation

Community-based projects own projects through stage-to-stage management participation	ES	VS	MS	SS	Total
Yes	32	20	9	5	66
	36.8%	23%	10.3%	66.7%	75.8%
No	5	7	8	1	21
	5.7%	8.0%	9.2%	1.1%	24.1%
Total	37	27	17	6	87
	42.5%	31.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Researcher 2018

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between community-based projects own projects through stage-to-stage management participation and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.388 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .061 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight significant relationship between the variables. This is as depicted as follows;

Table4.52:Chi-Square: stage-to-stage management and economic welfare

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.388(a)	3	.061
Likelihood Ratio	7.039	3	.071
Linear-by-Linear Association	3.356	1	.067
N of Valid Cases	87		

Source: Researcher 2018

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary of findings, conclusion, and recommendations on further research that are deemed important for the extension of the research.

5.1 Summary of Findings

5.1.1. Devolved funds and economic welfare of community-based projects

On devolved funds the study established that budgets allocated on improvement of economic welfare significantly influenced the likelihood to which economic empowerment was realized with the same posting a chi-square value of 8.379 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .039. this was followed by amounts provided for improvement in economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County that bore a significant relationship posting a chi-square value of 8.384 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ and thereby drawing a .039 likelihood of influence whereas funding channels in the county were seen to enable proper funds disbursement for improvement in economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega. This is echoed with a corresponding chi-square value of 7.163 at a $df = 3$ drawing a .067 likelihood in association slightly above an alpha level of .05. Further, accessibility of such funds through groups and individuals was seen to foster positive development and economic wellness of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega county as indicated by the significant association drawn by a chi-square value of 7.232 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .065 likelihood in association. These views concur with Tiebout (1956) who noted that decentralization promoted competition among the sub – national governments and thus enhancing the chance that governments respond to local needs and as a result, community-based projects are able to attain higher levels of efficiency in the allocation of public resources. Musgrave (1959) also stated that decentralization was seen to enhance productive efficiency by promoting accountability, reducing corruption and improving cost recovery.

5.1.2. Administrative systems and economic welfare of community-based projects

Set administrative systems are target wheels for running government projects. The study established a slight association between county administrators meeting requirements before being appointed to serve in crucial committees for the wellness of Lurambi, Kakamega County community-based projects as it drew a .079 likelihood of association, the systems were also echoed by corresponding findings on proper constitution of the boards of project management that at a $df = 3$ drew a .051. moreover the administrative structures were able to carry out feasibility studies before project roll out and funding proposals provided and thus drawing a .077 on $df=3$, also project monitoring and evaluating committees formed were properly constituted to serve major interests of the community-based projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as indicated with a chi-square value of 8.718 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drew a .033 likelihood in association. Committee's integrity issues were properly dealt with prior to panel selection and this was perceived to influence economic wellness of community-based projects of Lurambi , Kakamega County . These views were echo Juetting et al. (2004) studies pointing out that the role of a country's level of economic and institutional development in effective decentralization.

5.1.3. Human resource and of economic welfare of community-based projects

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between County contracting business development officers for community-based projects' economic training and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 8.630 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .035 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables.

A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between training stations in agriculture (farming and dairy, horticulture) have been developed and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 6/705 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .082 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight significant relationship between the

variables. With a test of association being conducted, chi-square results established a slight probability of association of between ratio of trainer to community-based projects (groups) as sufficient and improving economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.059 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .070 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. Further chi-square tests for significance established a slight probability of association between proper communication from the county to community-based projects enhance initiation and continuity and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 8.721 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .033 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables. The association between steady feedback from the field by community-based projects and its effect on improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County was found to be crucial as a chi-square value of 10.902 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drew a .012 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables.

When a test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between community-based projects needs are addressed properly within initiated projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega county as a chi-square value of 8.499 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .037 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very significant relationship between the variables.

5.1.4. Community-based projects participation

When a test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between active participation is encouraged during design of targeted economic projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 6.967 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a p-

value of .073 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight significant relationship between the variables.

A further test for probability of association that was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a very significant association of between project management, evaluation and running belongs to the community-based projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.512 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a p-value of .057 likelihood in association thereby revealing a slight significant relationship. A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between project sustainability is encouraged by involving policy makers in the running of the projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.478 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .058 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight significant relationship. A test for probability of association was conducted using chi-square tests and the results established a slight probability of association of between community-based projects own projects through stage-to-stage management participation and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County as a chi-square value of 7.388 at a corresponding degree of freedom of $df = 3$ drawing a .061 likelihood in association thereby revealing a very slight significant relationship. These findings are in line with Hogg's views that viewed collectiveness of the community-based projects lowering the level of uncertainty one felt. He suggested that low entitlement of groups, those with ambiguous membership, no clear rules, and little agreement on group attributes all do little to fend off uncertainty making people feel uncomfortable.

5.2. Conclusions

From this study, it is clear that the four factors are very important in contributing towards the improvement of community-based projects welfare and that measures should be put in place to ensure that the improvement impacts positively to the community-based projects wholesomely.

5.2.1 Devolved funds

The government should offer platforms for further funds accessibility, allow constituencies more financial muscle to support their initiatives at the grass root level. Budgets to be made in line with the needs of the people based on priorities articulated. The government to provide adequate amounts to cater for the needs of the constituents. The channels followed in the disbursement of funds should be simplified so as to enable easy accessibility to the funds. The use of groups protects the government but in a big way limits the people from being able to do what they intend to do. The need for collateral to access the funds should be reviewed with a view to enabling as many of those who desire to get the funds. The current situation is too limiting.

5.2.2 Administrative systems

There is need for those who are appointed to the various administrations to have the necessary qualities. The chairpersons need to should be those with the requisite qualifications so as to effectively chair the committees. There is need to carry out feasibility studies before the implementation of projects. This will ensure the sustainability and growth of project for the general benefit of the community. Integrity should be a top priority for those who are mandated to deal with the devolved resources. Committees formed should be properly constituted to serve major interests of the community-based projects.

5.2.3 Influence of Human Resource

The business development officers who conduct training to community-based projects on economic improvement as a factor within human resource within government structure, the agricultural training stations being developed, the ration of the trainers, proper communication from the county to community-based projects Community-based projects needs if properly addresses and steady feedback in the field can positively influence on improvement of economic welfare.

5.2.4 Community Participation

It was established that there was a slight probability of association of between active participation is encouraged during design of targeted economic projects, community-based projects forms management boards to oversee project implementation, sustainability encouraged by involving policy makers in the running of the projects, community-based projects owned projects through stage-to-stage management

participation and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects while there was a very significant association of between project management, evaluation and running belongs to the community-based projects and improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects

5.3. Recommendations

The following were the recommendations made from the study;

Community-based projects should seek proper experts in designing project initiatives, proper feasibility on available business development oriented opportunities, competent management boards, standard monitoring and evaluation procedures to improve on their sustainability.

All groups/community-based projects should synchronize their operations so as to avoid a situation of multiple projects running parallel to county governments initiated projects to broaden the base of economic development.

Financial training, and availability of training agricultural centres should play key role to impart management skills to community-based projects in view of enhancing project sustainability. This will help reduce and alleviate of poverty,

5.3.1. Suggestions for further study

Improvement of community-based projects' welfare is important as it expands social security, and economic empowerment to people who would otherwise engage in anti-social activities like crime. However, mass community-based projects training in economic empowerment and financial management as impacting on the wellness of the community-based projects as a study should be carried out to assess its impact on the community-based projects not only in in Lurambi, Kakamega County but in other sub-counties and Counties.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This section of the questionnaire refers to background or biographical information. Although we are aware of the sensitivity of the questions in this section, the information will allow us to compare groups of respondents. Once again, we assure you that your response will remain anonymous. Your cooperation is appreciated. (Tick **as appropriate**)

1. Respondents Gender

(a) Male { } (b) Female { }

2. Age

a. Below 20 years { } b. 20 – 30 years { } c. 31 – 40 years { } d. Above 40 years { }

3. Your highest educational qualification

a. Semi – literate { } b. Primary level { } c. K.C.S.E (O-level) { } d. Diploma graduate { } e. Graduate (degree) { } f. Post graduate (masters, PhD, others { }

4. How would you describe your economic status?

a. Low – class income { } b. Lower-middle class income { } c. Middle – level income { } d. Upper – middle class { } e. Upper class

5. How would you describe the area in which you are residing?

a. Urban residence { }
b. Rural residence { }

Section B: Objectives

1. Establishing how devolved funds within the government structure influence improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Kakamega County

Instruction: please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following statements

by putting a tick (✓); on a five point scale: 1 – not at all satisfied; 2 – slightly satisfied; 3 – moderately satisfied; 4 – very satisfied; 5 – extremely satisfied

a) Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements;

Statements	Responses				
	1	2	3	4	5
Budgets allocated for improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects are sufficient					
Amounts provided for economic welfare of community-based projects are;					
Funding channels in the county enable proper disbursement of funds;					
Funds are accessible through groups and or individuals;					
Allocation of funds depends on existence of a community-based projects project and or security (collateral)					

b) To examine how devolved funds within the government structure influence improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi

Statements	Responses				
	1	2	3	4	5
The administrative structures are properly designed to tackle economic empowerment issues;					
Administrator meet the necessary requirements before being appointed to serve in the positions					
A properly constituted board chairs budgetary allocations;					

Feasibility studies are carried out before project roll out and funding proposals provided;					
Committees formed are properly constituted to serve major interests of the community-based projects;					
Integrity issues are dealt with properly before one is selected to serve in a committee;					

c) To evaluate how human resource within government structure influence

Improvement of economic welfare of community-based projects in Lurambi , Kakamega County

Statements	Responses				
	1	2	3	4	5
Personnel within the administrative structure are qualified economic experts that understand the economic landscape of Lurambi community-based projects ;					
The county contracts business development officers to conduct training to community-based projects on economic improvement;					
Training stations in agriculture (farming and dairy, horticulture) have been developed;					
Ratio of trainer: community-based projects (groups) is sufficient;					
Proper communication from the county to community-based projects enhance project initiation and continuity;					
There's steady feedback on obstacles in the field faced by community-based projects in attaining set goals					

d. To determine how community-based projects participation within government structure influence improvement of economic welfare of community –based projects in Lurambi, Kakamega County.

Statements	Responses				
	1	2	3	4	5
Community-based projects needs are addressed properly within initiated projects;					
Active participation is encouraged during design of targeted economic projects;					
Project management, evaluation and running belongs to the community-based projects ;					
Community-based projects forms management boards to oversee project implementation;					
Project sustainability is encouraged by involving policy makers in the running of the projects;					
Community-based projects own projects through stage-to-stage management participation;					

APPENDIX 2: PLAGIARISM REPORT



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10	prd-idrc.azureedge.net https://prd-idrc.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/openbooks/475-8/index.html	0.04%